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3 Charges Dropped Against ITT Executive

The Justice Department yesterday announced that "to safeguard national security and U.S. foreign intelligence interests" it will not pursue three of the six perjury-related charges against International Telephone and Telegraph executive Edward J. Gerrity Jr.

Gerrity is accused of having lied to a Senate committee about his company's involvement in Chile.

The first notification that one count of perjury, one of subornation of perjury and one of making a false statement, would not be pursued came during a hearing before U.S. District Court Judge Aubrey E. Robinson Jr. when prosecutor G. Allen Carver Jr. said the government had decided not to pursue, rather than drop, the three counts.

Gerrity, ITT senior vice president for public affairs, and Robert Berrellez, an official for ITT in Latin America, were indicted on six counts each last March in separate criminal informations which charged that the two men, and unindicted co-conspirator Harold Hendrix, had lied to the Senate Foreign Relations subcommittee on multinational corporations in 1973.

The subcommittee was investigating allegations that ITT interfered in the 1970 presidential elections in Chile and had offered nearly \$1 million to opponents of the now-late Marxist-oriented Salvador Allende.

In separate hearings before Robinson yesterday, attorneys for Gerrity and Berrellez argued that all charges against their clients should be dropped.